## REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

| Application Number     | 10/078,240              |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Filing Date            | February 20, 2002       |
| First Named Inventor   | Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al. |
| Group Art Unit         | 2825                    |
| Examiner Name          | Granvill D. Lee         |
| Attorney Docket Number | 740756-2438             |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

| 1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114   |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
|--|--|---------|----------------------|--|--|--|
| 1.   |  |         | Previously submitted |  |  |  |
|  | a.   | i.      |                      | Consider the amendment(s) reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on  |  |  |
|  |  | 1.      |                      | (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).  |  |  |
|  |  | ii.     |                      | Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on  |  |  |
|  |  | iii.    |                      | Other  |  |  |
| :  | ъ.   | ×       | Enc                  | losed  |  |  |
|  |  | i.      |                      | Amendment/Reply iv. Submission of Formal Drawings  |  |  |
|  |  | ii.     |                      | Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)  v. Petition for Withdrawal from Issue   |  |  |
|  |  | jií.    | ×                    | Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)   |  |  |
| 2.   |  | Miscel  |                      |  |  |  |
|  | a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I) required) |         |                      |  |  |  |
|  | b.   |         |                      | mmonuns. (Period of suspension shall not observe 3 monthly, ( ca analysts ) 0.2.1(1) 7.7(7) 7.44                             |  |  |
| 3.   | -  | Fccs    | Tiπ                  | is RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(c) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.                                 |  |  |
| <b> </b>   | <u>L</u>   | [10]    |                      | Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any             |  |  |
| 1  | ۵.   |         | ove                  | rpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380  |  |  |
|  |  | i.      | X                    |  |  |  |
|  |  | ii.     |                      | Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)  |  |  |
| <b>\</b>   | iji. De Other Petition Fees  |         |                      |  |  |  |
|  | b. E The Director is authorized to charge Deposit Account # 19-2380 in the amount of \$900.00  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)   |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED  |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
|  | Nau  | ıç (Pri | nt/Ty                | pe) Joffrey L. Costellia Registration No. (Automey/Agent) 35,483   |  |  |
| Signature Date July 9, 2004  |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION [37 CFR 1.8(a)]   |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| 111  | and  | v cert  | fu th                | at this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail |  |  |
| I in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Vilgoria 22515-1450, or oblig |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
| facsimile transmitted to the USPRO at 703-305-4257, opticity 9, 2004.  |  |         |                      |  |  |  |
|  | Sign   | ature   |                      | The way tourch   |  |  |
| L  | Nar  | ne:     |                      | Pamela L. Patrick  |  |  |
|  |  |         |                      |  |  |  |

SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450